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JERSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, AUGUST 5,
1910.

Copy of the Invitation Sent to Former Residents of
Jersey County and their Friends.

JERSEYVILLE, ILL., July 19, 1910.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER:

August 5th, 1910, "Little Jersey" as she has long been called will celebrate her seventy-first birthday, being that length of time since she was set off from "Mother Greene." It is the purpose of those having the matter in charge to make it, not only a celebration for those now here, but a Re-union and Home Coming for those who have gone out from among us, and have chosen new homes and yet have not forgotten the old one or the many friends left behind them.

You are hereby cordially invited to attend and participate in this celebration.

A good program is being prepared including speaking, music and amusements to add to the pleasure of the occasion.

Those who attend, especially those who reside in Jersey County, are requested to bring baskets well laden with good things to eat, to be partaken of in picnic style.

The fifth of August, nineteen ten,
We want you to come back again,
And shake the hands of girls and boys
In Jersey County, Illinois.

A celebration, great, is planned
By men esteemed in this broad land,
Who know that absence ne'er can kill
The love you have for Jerseyville.

A band will meet you at the train
With "Auld Lang Syne" as the refrain,
We'll make this birthday feast so great
'Twill be renowned throughout the State.

Kindly advise us in reply, at your earliest convenience,
whether or not you can come, and oblige,

JOHN W. VINSON
CORNELIA J. SHEPHARD
FANNY H. ENGLISH
Invitation Committee.

REPORT OF A COMMITTEE TO THE JERSEY
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON THE
CELEBRATION OF THE SEVENTY-FIRST
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISH-
MENT OF JERSEY COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

The undersigned, General Committee, appointed by you, to plan and supervise the holding of an Anniversary, Home-Coming Re-Union, commemorative of the 71st Anniversary of the election, by means of which Jersey County was established, would respectfully report: That for the purpose of working out the details of the matter in hand, the following committees were appointed, to-wit:

INVITATIONS.

John W. Vinson, Chairman.
 Mrs. Cornelia J. Shephard.
 Mrs. John N. English.

This committee entered upon their work at once, and made a very laborious and thorough search for the names and addresses of former residents of this county, and through their efforts a great many persons were brought here to enjoy the pleasures of our Re-Union, and thus lightening the work of future committees in this field of labor.

MUSIC.

Prof. Edward B. Shafer, Chairman.
 John N. Beaty.
 Everett Alexander.

Through the efforts of this committee, the "White Hussar Band," of Alton, Illinois, was secured for the day, and proved to be a very happy selection. Their music was excellent, and well received by the people, and their readiness and the cheerfulness with which it was rendered was highly appreciated.

PARADE.

Hon. Jett A. Kirby, Chairman.
 Joseph R. Fulkerson.
 Col. William H. Fulkerson.

This committee provided a "Historical Parade," illustrating the subject of transportation, from the original immigrants in their "Prairie Schooners," with stove pipe through the wagon cover, with rope tugs and lines for harness, and a half dozen dogs trailing along; up through the different grades of development, to the latest and most complete style of "Automobile." The labors of this committee, in a field to a considerable extent,

barren of materials, was very successful, and was much enjoyed by those in attendance.

FINANCE.

Edward Cross, Chairman.
Paul M. Hamilton.
Harry S. Daniels.
Clarence G. Reddish.
Harry B. Hill.

The work of a committee of this kind is always unpleasant and disagreeable, on account of the scant courtesy with which they are usually received and treated, by many persons with whom they are necessarily brought in contact. But this committee, who have had large experience in work of this character, report that they were unusually well and kindly received, and in very few instances were their requests for contributions refused. They report all bills and obligations paid in full, and a small balance on hand, which this committee has ordered paid over to the treasurer of your Society, for its use in its work.

PUBLIC COMFORT.

The Ladies of the "Woman's Relief Corps," Mrs. Albert M. Tack, President.

This is the first instance in which arrangements have been made to conserve the comfort of the ladies, and especially the mothers with small children, in their attendance upon public gatherings in Jerseyville. In this instance, at our request, the devoted ladies of the "Relief Corps" took charge of the Court House and grounds, placed an abundance of cots, settees and rockers therein, in connection with which ample closet and toilet privileges were provided, together with seats upon the lawn, and an ample supply of ice water for everybody, all free

of charge. The heartfelt thanks of this committee and of the public generally, are due to these consecrated ladies for their "Good Samaritan" work on this occasion.

RECEPTION.

Hon. James H. Smith, Mayor, Chairman.	
Judge George W. Herdman,	Alexander F. Pitt,
Stephen H. Bowman,	Joseph M. Page,
Hon. Theodore S. Chapman,	Col. William H. Fulkerson,
Augustus H. Cochran,	Hon. Jett A. Kirby,
Elias Cockrell,	Hon. Harry W. Pogue,
Judge Allen M. Slaten,	Robert C. Gledhill,
Leslie Cross,	Joseph W. Becker,
Hon. Henry A. Shephard,	Charles E. Miner,
Benjamin F. Calhoun,	Edward Vaughn,
Paul M. Hamilton,	Judge Charles S. White.

Silk badges were printed and distributed to the members of this committee, and they, through their active efforts, contributed largely to the success and enjoyment of the day.

USHERS.

Hiram P. Noble, Chairman.
 Augustine Christy,
 George H. Van Horne.

Through the work of this committee the "Airdome," on the east side of Washington street, opposite the court house square, was comfortably seated at 11 A. M. and 2 P. M., which added much to the comfort and pleasure of those in attendance.

AUTOMOBILE PARADE.

Joseph M. Page, Chairman.

Upon the request of the "Parade Committee" Joseph M. Page was made chairman of this committee, and at

3:30 P. M. brought about 40 automobiles to the "Airdome" and took all of the 39'ers (that is, all persons who were residents of this county in 1839) for an excursion out past the residence of Jarrett T. Grimes, who is the oldest person now living, who was born in what is now Jersey county. He was born on January 20th, 1820, upon the farm now owned by the heirs of David Roach, deceased, and formerly owned by Nelson Colean. Mr. Grimes had expected to be present at our anniversary, and anticipated much enjoyment from meeting his old time friends thereat, but was taken ill, and in consequence was denied that pleasure. This excursion was given as a token of remembrance and appreciation of him as the oldest resident, and of his character and standing as an honorable and upright citizen of this county.

The printing and advertising, done through our local press, and by posting and distributing large and small bills, was most thoroughly, systematically and judiciously done, and largely contributed toward securing the great attendance at our meeting.

ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM.

JERSEYVILLE, ILLINOIS.

August 5th, 1910.

- 10:00. Historic parade on streets.
- 11:00. Music by White Hussar Band in Airdome.
Address by Hon. Ed. Miner, of Carrollton.

DINNER HOUR.

- 12 to 12:30. Basket dinner in court house yard.
- 1:30. Music by White Hussar Band in Airdome.
- 2:00. Poem—"The Old Jersey County Fair"—Julia Barr Carlin.
- 2:15. Address by Judge Adams A. Goodrich, of Chicago.
- 3:15. Reminiscent Addresses by Old Settlers.

3:30. Automobile parade—free ride to 39'ers.

4:00. Music by White Hussar Band on court house lawn.

BASE BALL GAME.

National Park at 2:30 P. M. Jerseyville Nationals and Hardin.

There was a very large attendance at this ball game.

With the exception of the address of Judge Adams A. Goodrich, this program was fully carried out as printed. By reason of matters arising beyond his control, Judge Goodrich was compelled, only a few days before our meeting, to send us his regrets and declination. Then at the urgent request of this committee, Judge George W. Herdman, Hon. Harry W. Pogue and Rev. Calloway Nash, each kindly consented to make short addresses, which they did, very greatly to the edification, instruction and enjoyment of the people.

An address was also made by Hon. Edward Kendall, of Mexico, Mo., a former resident of this county. His father resided at Delhi and was a candidate for the office of sheriff at the first election in 1839, and was defeated by John N. English by one vote. He was afterwards elected a Representative in the Legislature from this county. A few minutes after finishing his address as stated, Mr. Kendall was taken ill, and inside of 30 minutes expired, casting a cloud of gloom over the closing events of the day. His remains were affectionately taken in charge by his Masonic brethren, and removed to their Lodge room, where, at 2:30 P. M. August 6th, 1910, a very impressive funeral service was held, and his remains were taken thence to the Chicago & Alton R. R. and shipped to his home in Mexico, Mo.

There were about 75 persons present at our meeting who were residents of this county in 1839, to all of whom appropriate silk badges were given, and about 60 of these were upon the speakers' platform at the afternoon meet-

ing. A pleasing diversion in connection with the afternoon program was a violin solo and variations by Daniel Seago, one of the 39'ers.

A very good photograph of a group of about 40 of the 39'ers was made and a copy thereof should be procured for your society.

Your committee would further report that few, if any meetings of any kind have ever been held in the city of Jerseyville with as large an attendance as that of Aug. 5th, 1910, and none that would in any manner compare with it in point of orderliness, good behavior and respectability

This committee, one and all, desire to express our appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Ida (Cross) Davis for her poem, "The Old Jersey County Fair," and also the poem contained in our printed invitations, also to all persons who in any way assisted or participated in the program, or any of the exercises of the day, all members of committees and all other persons who in any way assisted in making our meeting a success.

At the outset, and in fact, all through our work, we were considerably hampered and delayed by reason of having no data or precedents to follow, thereby making our plans and efforts somewhat experimental in their nature. Therefore, it is recommended that a scrap-book or some other means be adopted by which all printed articles, bills, books, memoranda of committees, letters and all other matters and things suitable for the purpose, may be preserved in an orderly and accessible form in the records of your society, so that it may be at hand for use and assistance in arranging for any future meeting of a like character.

Your committee further report that there seemed to be an almost universal expression among those present at our meeting that meetings of a similar character should be held annually hereafter. It is therefore recommended that you make such annual meetings a part of your work.

It is suggested that there is no other society or organization in this city or county that by reason of its non-political, non-sectarian and non-commercial character, is so well situated and equipped to satisfactorily take up and successfully carry forward such a work as your society.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated at Jerseyville, Illinois, Sept. 1st, A. D. 1910.

OSCAR B. HAMILTON,
AUGUST K. VAN HORNE,
H. R. GLEDHILL,
JOSEPH M. PAGE,
JOSEPH W. BECKER,
General Committee.